

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 The present invention enables a facility (home, business or industrial site) to
optimize the consumption of energy in that facility. In this invention, the power
companies that supply energy provide information to its client facilities on the cost and
availability of energy from that company on a real-time basis. Each client facility would
have a power accounting server. These servers store this and process this information to
predict when the rates for using the energy will be the least expensive for a particular task
10 or to operate a particular appliance. A homeowner (client facility) for example can
program appliances such as a dishwasher or laundry machine to turn on when the cost of
energy is below a particular threshold price. The present invention has the capability to
receive characteristics about a particular appliance, generate a list of energy consumption
options for that particular product at a particular time period and select and implement the
15 most efficient energy supply option. This invention can also enable a client facility that
generates energy to efficiently use the generated energy and sell any excess energy to
another end user or to other energy consumers.

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